

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 09097 251652Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 /064 W

----- 045449

R 251125Z JU 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1754

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9097

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UR, IT

SUBJECT: GROMYKO VISIT TO ROME--A NEW PROPOSAL IN THE OFFING?

1. IN STRICT CONFIDENCE, THE MFA'S SOVIET DESK CHIEF (VECCHI) HAS TOLD US THAT THE ITALIANS HAVE HEARD THAT SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREY GROMYKO WILL FLOAT THE IDEA OF CONVENING A "CONFERENCE ON DETENTE" DURING HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO ROME (JUNE 27-28). POSSIBILITY THAT THIS WILL OCCUR WAS RAISED BY EAST GERMAN AMBASSADOR GYSI (WHOM ITALIANS CONSIDER THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND KNOWLEDGABLE OF THE EAST EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED HERE) DURING A MEETING WITH MFA SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA WITHIN PAST FEW DAYS.

2. WHILE THE ITALIANS ARE NOT SURE HOW WELL INFORMED GYSI IS ON THIS PARTICULAR SUBJECT OR WHETHER HE HAS CONFUSED THE IDEA OF A CONFERENCE ON DETENTE WITH ONE ON DISARMAMENT, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 ROME 09097 251652Z

THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO ROUND UP WHATEVER INFORMATION OR INDICATORS ARE AVAILABLE ON THIS SUBJECT PRIOR TO GROMYKO'S ARRIVAL. CABLES HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE ITALIAN EMBASSIRES IN EAST EUROPE ASKING FOR THEIR COMMENTS. ADDITIONALLY, VECCHI WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANYTHING WE ARE IN A POSITION TO SHARE WITH THE ITALIANS ON THIS SUBJECT. DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE IN REQUESTED.VOLPE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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